

MEDIA RELEASE FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE 11 OCTOBER 2007

4αΧΥ

Angelo Filomeno / Shaun Gladwell / Wang Guan-Yi / Peter Graham / Ken Kagami / Kate Rhode work from the Collection of Dr Dick Ouan



Image: Ken Kagami, 'Dinner' 2007, Mixed media, dimensions variable. Dr Dick Quan Collection

The Asia-Australia Arts Centre is pleased to present an exhibition developed from the collection of Dr Dick Quan, a noted collector of contemporary art and philanthropist-based in Sydney. Developed for the tenth year anniversary of Gallery 4A, the Asia-Australia Arts Centre.

Featuring a mixture of Asian, Australian and European work, including Angelo Filomeno, Shaun Gladwell, Wang Guang-Yi, Peter Graham, Ken Kagami and Kate Rhode, 40XY is a subversively forward-thinking project, which has been developed for the tenth anniversary of the gallery. The exhibition features a mixture of work, genres, styles and meanings, from Ken Kagami's irreverent and small sculpture to Shaun Gladwell's beautifully hypnotic video.

The choice of work in the exhibition reflects Dr Quan's interest in art. He says, "One of the things that really interests me is generational change and that we can't get stuck on the aesthetics that we know. The most exciting thing about art is that it is always about the boundary, which ushers in the next thing..." The title of the exhibition is equally multilayered, "I wanted to call this exhibition $4\alpha XY$ [4 (alpha) XY] because 4a stands for 'Gallery 4A' and XY can also stand for 'generation X' and 'generation Y', we might also read it as 'XY' which can mean 'male' to a doctor, but the XY can also read as the tenth year. It suggests that the world is not about how we look at one set of words, you must look at the world in a multilayered way and not ask, "Is it this? Or is it that? It's everything at once."

The multilayered meanings in the exhibition also reflect the importance of a small organisation like Gallery 4A in presenting new artists, new ideas and new dialogues within the artworld and community alike. Dr Quan has been a long time supporter of Gallery 4A, a non-profit organisation founded in 1997 and based in Chinatown. Gallery 4A's mission is to support Asian-Australian artists and promote dialogue with Asia. Dr Quan has supported some of the earliest exhibitions at the Gallery in 1997. He has seen the gallery develop from a small operation in a shoebox size space on Sussex Street to its larger incarnation as the Asia-Australia Arts Centre on Hay Street in the middle of Chinatown. 2007 marks the ten year anniversary of Gallery 4A and the exhibition $4\alpha XY$ is a way of recognising the importance of the gallery in ushering in new ways of thinking about our place in the world.

4αXY has been curated by Lisa Corsi, Curator, Collection Dr Dick Quan

4aXY

Angelo Filomeno / Shaun Gladwell / Wang Guan-Yi / Peter Graham / Ken Kagami / Kate Rhode Exhibition Dates: 18 October – 1 December 2007

Preview: Wednesday 17 October. 6-8pm

For media enquiries, images or interviews please contact Aaron Seeto on 9212 0380 or 0418 618324

Gallery 4A - Asia-Australia Arts Centre 181-187 Hay Street Sydney NSW 2000

About the Asian Australian Artists Association (4A)

The Asian Australian Artists Association is a non-profit organisation whose aim is to promote greater understanding of diverse cultures through the arts. 4A has developed a unique approach to addressing Australia's cultural diversity.

Since its inception in 1997, Gallery 4A has grown from a very small space in Sussex Street to the current Asia-Australia Arts Centre located in the heart of Chinatown in a historic building provided by the City of Sydney.

Gallery 4A – the Asia-Australia Arts Centre provides a vital cross-cultural dialogue through an innovative and comprehensive program of exhibitions.

The Asia-Australia Arts Centre gratefully acknowledges its Principal Patrons Geoff and Vicki Ainsworth, Droga Capital and Dr Dick Quan; Patrons Johnson Pilton Walker, Mr Richard Funston; Benefactor Steensen Varming and the assistance of the Commonwealth Government through the Australia Council, its funding and advisory body, the NSW Government through Arts NSW and the City of Sydney